

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No PCT/EP2007/003810	
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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER INV. A61C13/00 A61C8/00 A61C19/04		
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According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

A61C

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 562 448 A (MUSHABAC DAVID R [US]) 8 October 1996 (1996-10-08) column 3, line 14 - column 4, line 17 column 5, line 44 - column 6, line 51 column 7, lines 5-41 column 10, lines 35-67 column 24, line 35 - column 25, line 62 figures 1,25-30 ----- -/-	1-7, 10-31

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

& document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

1 October 2007

Date of mailing of the international search report

09/10/2007

Name and mailing address of the ISA/

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/EP2007/003810

C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	WO 2004/064660 A (TACTILE TECHNOLOGIES LLC [US]; WEINSTEIN URIEL [IL]; YOHAI YUVAL [IL];) 5 August 2004 (2004-08-05) cited in the application page 4, line 27 – page 5, line 5 page 5, line 31 – page 6, line 12 page 14, lines 1-11 page 15, lines 3-31 page 23, line 28 – page 24, line 18 page 30, line 31 – page 31, line 2 figures 1,2,6A ----- US 6 319 006 B1 (SCHERER FRANZ [DE] ET AL) 20 November 2001 (2001-11-20) cited in the application column 2, line 11 – column 3, line 11 column 3, line 41 – column 4, line 36 figures 1-5 ----- DE 100 36 027 A1 (SCHREIBER HANS [DE]) 10 January 2002 (2002-01-10) column 4, paragraph 39 column 5, paragraph 58 – column 6, paragraph 60 column 7, paragraph 67 figures 1,2,2',7 ----- WO 2006/115841 A (ORTHOCLAR HOLDINGS INC; WEN HUAFENG [US]; CHISHTI MUHAMMAD ZIAULLAH K) 2 November 2006 (2006-11-02) paragraphs [0266] – [0268] -----	1-7,10, 12, 17-24, 27,29-31 1-4, 11-15, 17-26, 29-31 1,7,16, 19-22, 27,28,31 1,3-6, 11-17, 19-26, 28,29,31
P,X		

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORTInternational application No.
PCT/EP2007/003810**Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)**

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. Claims Nos.: 8, 9
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
Rule 39.1(iv) PCT - Method for treatment of the human or animal body by surgery
2. Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.

No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No	
PCT/EP2007/003810	

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)		Publication date
US 5562448	A	08-10-1996	NONE		
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			US	2006040233 A1	23-02-2006
			US	2004146830 A1	29-07-2004
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			DE	19952962 A1	17-05-2001
			EP	1101451 A2	23-05-2001
			JP	2001170080 A	26-06-2001
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